

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action mailed on April 19, 2005. Reexamination in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 8-24 are currently pending in this application, with claims 6, 8 and 12 being independent. *No new matter has been added.*

Drawing objections

In response to the drawing objections, figure 1 has been amended. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

This rejection is traversed at least for the following reasons.

While not conceding the propriety of this rejection and in order to advance the prosecution of the above-identified application, claims 1-5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their underlying subject matter.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,670,924 to Shoji et al. (Shoji).

This rejection is traversed at least for the following reasons.

While not conceding the propriety of this rejection and in order to advance the prosecution of the above-identified application, claims 1-5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their underlying subject matter.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,699,071 to Urakami et al. (Urakami).

If the allowance of claim 6 is not forthcoming at the very least and a new grounds of rejection made, then a *new non-final Office Action* is respectfully requested for the reasons provided hereinbelow.

This rejection is traversed at least for the following reasons.

While not conceding the propriety of this rejection and in order to advance the prosecution of the above-identified application, the features of claim 7 have been wholly incorporated into claim 6. As a result original claim 7 is now amended claim 6.

Claim 6 is drawn to an antenna unit, comprising:

a flat antenna;

matching control signal generating means for generating a matching control signal corresponding to inputted data; and

a matching circuit that is so configured that the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is made variable based on said matching control signal outputted from said matching control signal generating means, wherein:

said matching circuit comprises a connective circuit including a matching coil and a variable capacitance diode, and

the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is variably controlled by varying the inductance of said matching coil and the capacitance of said variable capacitance diode based on said matching control signal.

Urakami arguably teaches a glass antenna system for automobile having antenna 1 (Urakami at figure 5). Urakami arguably teaches matching circuits 21 and 32 having at least one coil 13, 21 (Urakami at figure 5).

Nevertheless, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the resonant frequency of the antenna 1 being variably controlled by varying the inductance of either coil 13, 21. Specifically, the coils 13, 21 are not shown to be variable. Moreover, the variability of an inductance is not found within Urakami.

Thus, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is variably controlled by varying the inductance of said matching coil and the capacitance of said variable capacitance diode based on said matching control signal.

Claim 8 is drawn to a broadcast reception terminal apparatus, comprising:

a flat antenna;

reception means for selecting and receiving airwaves of a desired reception channel;

matching control signal generating means for generating a matching control signal corresponding to reception channel selection data supplied from said reception means; and

a matching circuit that is so configured that the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is made variable based on said matching control signal outputted from said matching control signal generating means, wherein:

said matching circuit comprises a connective circuit including a matching coil and a variable capacitance diode, and

the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is variably controlled by varying the group including the inductance of said matching coil and the capacitance of said variable capacitance diode.

Urakami arguably teaches matching circuits 21 and 32 having at least one coil 13, 21 and at least one varactor diode 17, 23 (Urakami at figure 5).

Nevertheless, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the resonant frequency of the antenna 1 being variably controlled by varying the inductance of either coil 13, 21. Specifically, the coils 13, 21 are not shown to be variable. Moreover, the variability of an inductance is not found within Urakami.

Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the resonant frequency of the antenna 1 being variably controlled by varying the capacitance of either varactor diode 17, 23. Specifically, the varactor diode 17, 23 are not shown to be variable. Moreover, the variability of a capacitance is not found within Urakami.

Thus, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the resonant frequency of said flat antenna is variably controlled by varying the group including the inductance of said matching coil and the capacitance of said variable capacitance diode.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

New claims

Claims 13-24 are dependent upon claim 12. Claim 12 is drawn to a flat antenna, comprising:

a feed conductor between a first non-feed conductor and a second first non-feed conductor,

wherein each of said first and non-feed conductors is adapted to control the frequency band of the flat antenna.

Figures 15-18 of Shoji arguably teach an antenna 14, a dielectric 18 and a metal substrate 11. However, Shoji fails to disclose, teach or suggest the antenna 14 being between a first non-feed conductor and a second first non-feed conductor. Moreover, Shoji fails to disclose, teach or suggest each of the first and non-feed conductors being adapted to control the frequency band of the flat antenna.

Urakami arguably teaches an antenna 1 (Urakami at figures 1 and 4). However, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest the antenna 1 being between a first non-feed conductor and a second first non-feed conductor. Moreover, Urakami fails to disclose, teach or suggest each of the first and non-feed conductors being adapted to control the frequency band of the flat antenna.

Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

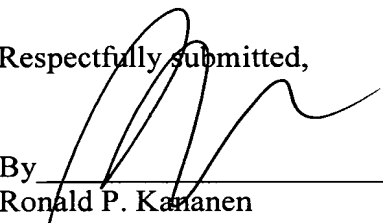
For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Dated: July 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In accordance with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice, proposed drawing changes as REPLACEMENT SHEETS are attached, wherein Applicant proposes to amend the drawings in the above-identified application as follows:

Please amend the lower Figure 1 by including the legend -- RELATED ART --

No new matter has been added. Approval is earnestly requested.